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6 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
7 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
8 AT SEATTLE

9 SARITH S. CHAN,

10 Petitioner,

11 v.

12 DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
13 SECURITY, NATHALIE ASHER, Field Office
14 Director, NORTHWEST DETENTION
15 CENTER,

16 Respondents.

Case No. C12-847-RAJ-JPD

REPORT AND
RECOMMENDATION

17 I. INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY CONCLUSION

18 Petitioner is a native of Cambodia who is being detained by the United States
19 Immigration and Customs Enforcement (“ICE”) pursuant to a final order of removal entered on
20 May 19, 1998. On May 16, 2012, petitioner, proceeding pro se, filed the instant petition for writ
21 of habeas corpus pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2241, seeking an emergency stay of removal. Dkt. No.
22 1. Petitioner asserts that he has filed a motion to reopen his removal proceedings with the Board
23 of Immigration Appeals (“BIA”) on the basis that he is a United States citizen, which remains
24 pending. *Id.* at 1. Petitioner asks “this court grant him a temporary stay of removal until the
25 Board of Immigration Appeals makes a decision on his claim to be a USC.” *Id.*
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1 For the reasons set forth below, the Court recommends that this matter be dismissed with
2 prejudice.

3 II. DISCUSSION

4 The REAL ID Act provides that “a petition for review filed with an appropriate court of
5 appeals in accordance with this section shall be the sole and exclusive means for judicial review
6 of an order of removal entered or issued under any provision” of the Act. 8 U.S.C. § 1252(a)(5);
7 *see also* 8 U.S.C. § 1252(g) (“Except as provided in this section and notwithstanding any other
8 provision of law, no court shall have jurisdiction to hear any cause or claim by or on behalf of
9 any alien arising from the decision or action by the Attorney General to commence proceedings,
10 adjudicate cases, or execute removal orders against any alien under this chapter”). The law
11 specifically divests district courts of jurisdiction arising from the removal orders of aliens. *See*
12 *id.* Judicial review of an administratively final order of removal is only available before the
13 court of appeals having jurisdiction over the district where petitioner’s immigration judge holds
14 seat. *See* 8 U.S.C. § 1252(a)(5).
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16 Section 1252(b)(9) further provides that “[j]udicial review of all questions of law and
17 fact, including interpretation and application of constitutional and statutory provisions, arising
18 from any action taken or proceeding brought to remove an alien from the United States under
19 this subchapter shall be available only in judicial review of a final order under this section.” 8
20 U.S.C. § 1252(b)(9). The Court finds that it lacks jurisdiction over petitioner’s request under the
21 REAL ID Act because the request to halt the execution of the final orders of removal “arise[s]
22 from” an “action” or a “proceeding” brought in connection with petitioners’ removal, or from
23 “the decision or action [to] execute removal orders against” them. 8 U.S.C. §§ 1252(b)(9),
24 1252(g).
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1 “A request to stay an order of removal based on a pending collateral claim does not
2 escape the jurisdiction stripping provisions of the REAL ID Act.” *Mancho v. Chertoff*, 480 F.
3 Supp. 2d 160, 162 (D.D.C. 2007) (citing *Formusoh v. Gonzales*, No. 3-07-CV-0128-K, 2007 WL
4 465305 (N.D. Tex. Feb. 12, 2007) (dismissing for lack of subject matter jurisdiction habeas
5 petition of petitioner seeking stay of removal pending resolution of an I-130 petition and an I-
6 485 adjustment of status petition)); *Tale v. United States Dep’t of Homeland Sec.*, 2006 U.S.
7 Dist. LEXIS 47577, at *1 (S.D. Tex. July 13, 2006) (finding lack of jurisdiction to grant
8 petitioner preliminary and permanent injunctions barring his deportation prior to the resolution of
9 his claims pending before an immigration judge). Absent statutory or legal authority that creates
10 an exception to the REAL ID Act, this Court lacks subject matter jurisdiction over petitioner’s
11 request for stay of removal during the pendency of his motion to reopen before the BIA. Under
12 these circumstances, the BIA and the Ninth Circuit are the proper forums for such claims and,
13 thus for any injunctive relief associated with such claims. *See* 8 C.F.R. §§ 241.6, 1003.6(b);
14 *Nken v. Holder*, 556 U.S. 418, 129 S. Ct. 1749, 173 L. Ed. 2d 550 (2009).

17 III. CONCLUSION

18 For the foregoing reasons, the Court recommends that this matter be dismissed with
19 prejudice. A proposed order accompanies this Report and Recommendation.

20 DATED this 16th day of May, 2012.

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23 JAMES P. DONOHUE
24 United States Magistrate Judge
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